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[10744/4200]

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor(s) : Johannes-Joerg RUEGER et al.
Serial No. : 09/824,193
Filed : April 2, 2001
For : COMPENSATION OF BATCH VARIATION IN THE
TRAVEL DUE TO VARIATIONS IN THE LAYER
THICKNESS OR NUMBER OF LAYERS IN MULTI-
LAYER PIEZOELECTRIC ELEMENTS
Examiner : Mark O. Budd
Art Unit : 2834

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being submitted with the
United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope
addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231,
on

Date 8/21/02

Signature Cathleen F. Ryan

KENYON & KENYON

AMENDMENT

SIR:

In response to the Office Action of March 27, 2002, kindly amend the
above-captioned application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claim 12, without prejudice, as follows:

B
12. (Amended) The method as defined in claim 11, characterized in that a
control unit (D) determines that correction factor by dividing the piezoelectric
element's (10, 20, 30, 40, 50 or 60) normal travel distance to the piezoelectric
element's (10, 20, 30, 40, 50 or 60) respective actual travel distance.

Please add the following new claims:

B2
-18. (New) An apparatus for charging a piezoelectric element, comprising:
a control unit configured to control an activation voltage and an activation
charge value to drive the piezoelectric element, the control unit configured to adjust
the activation voltage and activation charge value to compensate for a deviation
caused by a variation of at least one of a layer thickness of the piezoelectric element
and a number of layers of the piezoelectric element.

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01 FC:103	252.00 CH
02 FC:102	84.00 CH
03 FC:116	400.00 CH

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